

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims whereby the claims are as follows:

1.(Currently Amended) An optical element (10) comprising an optically functional surface (1) having an outer periphery and a flange (2) formed on the outer periphery thereof, and having on the flange outer peripheral surface a fitted fitting portion adapted to be fitted to the an inner peripheral surface of a lens-barrel (20) that has a ~~concave~~ groove (22) ~~for filling an adhesive (A)~~ ~~formed on a part of~~ ~~in~~ the inner peripheral surface ~~for being filled with an adhesive~~, and an adhering portion to be adhered to the lens-barrel (20) by the adhesive (A) filled in said concave groove (22), wherein and the flange having a raised portion (3) ~~is formed on the flange surface inside the flange~~ within the periphery of the outer peripheral surface and extending above a plane in which other surface portions of the flange lie to prevent the adhesive (A) filled in the ~~concave~~ groove (22) of the lens-barrel from flowing to the optically functional surface (1).

2.(Currently Amended) The optical element according to claim 1, wherein a first slant inclined face (4) is formed on the an outer peripheral side of said raised portion (3) and extends to said plane, and a second slant inclined face

(5) is formed from the upper an end of a fitted said fitting portion of the flange outer peripheral surface toward the flange surface proximate said plane and extends to said plane.

3.(Currently Amended) The optical element according to claim 2, wherein the first slant face (4) on the peripheral side of said raised portion (3) and the second slant face (5) formed from the upper end of the fitted portion toward the flange surface are on the same plane inclined surfaces form a continuous inclined surface.

4.(Currently Amended) The optical element according to claim 1, wherein a space (6) is formed between the raised portion (3) and the optically functional said other surface (1) portions comprise an annulus between the optically functional surface and the raised portion.

5.(New) The optical element according to claim 2, wherein said other surface portions comprise an annulus contiguous with the first and the second inclined surfaces.